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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SERIAL BANK ROBBER PLEADS GUILTY DURING TRIAL

Baltimore, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that during the fifth day of trial testimony Dante Rolando Harris, age 29 of Baltimore, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Judge William N. Nickerson to 11 armed bank robberies. Judge Nickerson immediately sentenced Harris to 50 years in prison without parole.

Harris, together with his associates Billy Campbell Harding, Juan Deante Dixon and Allistair Guerra conspired to rob banks in Baltimore, Howard, Anne Arundel, Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties between January and July of 2002. The defendants either entered the following banks during business hours at gunpoint, or followed bank employees home after business hours where they were abducted and forced to provide access to the banks:

First Federal Financial Credit Union	Catonsville, MD	\$18,449	1/11/02
Provident Bank	Gaithersburg, MD	23,963	2/12/02
Old Line National Bank	Accokeek, MD	8,550	3/11/02
Branch Banking & Trust	Columbia, MD	21,120	3/29/02
Provident Bank of Maryland	Gaithersburg, MD	attempted	5/14/02
Key Bank & Trust	Randallstown, MD	attempted	5/24/02
Farmer's Bank of Maryland	Crofton, MD	33,807	5/28/02
Farmer's Bank of Maryland	Glen Burnie, MD	28,563	6/22/02
Farmers and Mechanics Bank	Catonsville, MD	11,833	7/3/02

First Mariner Bank	Severna Park, MD	18,293	7/15/02
Key Bank and Trust	Ellicott, MD	5,035	7/29/02

Harding was convicted after trial and sentenced in August, 2003 to 96 years imprisonment. Guerra pleaded guilty and was sentenced in May, 2003 to 16 years imprisonment. Dixon has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing.

The case is a result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys James G. Warwick and P. Michael Cunningham.